

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Maintaining Ongoing Stability Through Treatment Program – (\$999,916 grant)

Santa Cruz County's M.O.S.T. program combines the evidence-based Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) model with a system-level reform strategy rooted in the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) which uses therapeutic responses instead of incarceration in an attempt to "interrupt" the cycle of recidivism. Examples of SIM responses include client I.D. cards used for law enforcement redirection to program Deputy, electronic monitoring and on-going training for jail staff and law enforcement on strategies for mentally ill offender contacts.

The M.O.S.T. program and client services will be located in the Sheriff's new Community Corrections Center, located adjacent to the main jail and court facilities, providing a single point of contact for clients. The center will provide space for client meetings, counseling sessions, shared case management resources, jail alternatives, probation monitoring and the county's work release program. Grant funds will allow the center to operate on extended hours/days and provide for bi-lingual materials. Center staff will include a Sheriff's Deputy responsible for field crisis and jail alternatives, and a Community Corrections Officer to assist with court appointments and provide continuity of contact from in-custody to release.

The center will also house the multidisciplinary FACT team comprised of mental health specialists who will provide mental health and substance abuse treatment, probation officers/court liaisons, a registered nurse, a licensed clinician who will provide dual-diagnoses treatment services, a job development specialist and a psychiatrist. This team will provide fully integrated, comprehensive services including housing assistance, transportation, finance management and linkages to Systems of Care services (e.g., benefit enrollment and work programs) and be available to clients on a 24/7 basis.

This project will serve an estimated 60 mentally ill offenders and will provide a step-down service program for clients who remain stable and successful in community reintegration.

Project Director: Len Lofano, Chief Deputy
(831) 454-2834; shf239@co.santa-cruz.ca.us